GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2191
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2001
REHABILITATION PACKAGE FOR FREED BONDED LABOUR
A.K. MOORTHY;GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission observed that even after the identification of bonded migrant labourers, the directions given by the Supreme Court for payment of compensation and the rehabilitation package are not being strictly implemented;

(b) if so, the details of directions issued by the Supreme Court;

(c) the reasons for not implementing the Supreme Court directions; and

(d) the steps being considered by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) & (d) In some cases, both the States namelythe State from which the bonded labourer migrated as well as the State in which the bonded labourer is identified do not accept their responsibility to rehabilitate the identified bonded labourer on the grounds that the other State is liable for it.

Under the Centraly Sponsored Plan Scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labourers, detailed guidelines have been issued to all the States/UT Governments regarding rehabilitation of bonded labourers. These guidelines, in case of migrant bonded labourers, provide that the recipient State/UT Government,where the bonded labour has been identified, would make arrangements for his/her repatriation to their native place, if they so desire under intimation to the Ministry of Labour. Then, it would be the responsibility of their native State Governments/UTs to provide them the rehabilitation package. Otherwise they have to be rehabilitated by the same State Government where they are identified.

Further, in order to ensure strict compliance of the Supreme Court directions as well as the requirement ofthe law, the National Human Rights Commission has decided to bring this issue to the notice of the Supreme Court for seeking further directions.